

November 8, 2020

County of San Diego 2020 Independent Redistricting Commission San Diego, CA

Submitted via email redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov

Dear Commissioners:

This communication is sent on behalf of the membership of a San Diego South County public group, South Bay Forum (SBF). We are a volunteer-based organization that is engaged in public policy concerns with the purpose moving our region forward in a manner that benefits all of our neighbors. SBF has been engaged in redistricting processes as an organization since the 2000 cycle.

SBF is pleased with the commission's effort that offers a thoughtful opportunity to ensure that the group's makeup is equitably reflective of San Diego's ethnic diversity. On this note, our group respectfully requests that upon selecting the remaining six slots on the commission, serious consideration be given to the fact that Latino's represent over 30% of the county's population. In cities such as Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, National City, the percent of Latinx residents is above 60%. This is not just a reality in our part of the County. Communities in East County and North County, have significant Latino populations as well. For example, cities such as El Cajon, Escondido, Vista, and Oceanside have grown their Latino resident populations since the 2010 cycle.

Actions generated to redraw the county supervisorial district lines will impact communities politically, socially, and economically for many years to come. A lack of fair representation of the Latinx community would be deemed unacceptable by SBF, as no doubt by other representative organizations.

We request that you honor the aims and spirit of the Federal Voting Rights Act and California State Voting Rights Act of 2001 and create a commission representative of its residents. Please know that SBF is prepared to assist the commission in any manner you deem appropriate. I can be reached at via email at joserpreciado71@gmail.com.

Thank you,

Jose Preciado, Convener